

Remarks/Arguments

This case has been reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 29 December 2005. Responsive to the Official Action, this Response is being filed concurrently with a five month Extension of Time Request to respond.

This Response is being made with traverse in part.

In accordance with the requirements of the Official Action, Applicant hereby elects the Species 1 directed to key caps (Figs. 1A-1C). It is believed that Claims 1-7 read on this Species.

With respect to the Examiner's finding of patentably distinct species of the claims invention directed to 1. Key caps (Figs. 1A-1C); 2. Upper covers (Figs. 2A-2C); 3. Fluorescent plates (Figs. 3A-3B); and 4. Mouse (Fig. 4), Applicant hereby answers this response with traverse with respect to the species of Figs. 1A-1C; Figs. 2A-2C; and Figs 3A-3B for the reasons in the following paragraphs and requests reconsideration.

It is believed that the Species of Figs. 1A-1C; Figs. 2A-2C; and Figs. 3A-3B found by the Examiner to be distinct species are basically one species of the invention since they are all directed to the structure of a keyboard.

Claims 1-7 are directed to an illuminated human-machine interface device where the interface device is a keyboard and includes key caps having a

fluorescent material. The key caps are inherently part and parcel of the structure of the keyboard and comprise a required structure of the keyboard.

Claims 8-14 are directed to a human-machine interface device where the device is a keyboard and the upper cover includes a fluorescent material where the fluorescent material is used to make printed symbols on the upper cover recognizable under a weak light and this is in the manner of the fluorescent material being used to make printed symbols on the key caps as provided in Claim 1-7 and further is a required part of the structure of the keyboard.

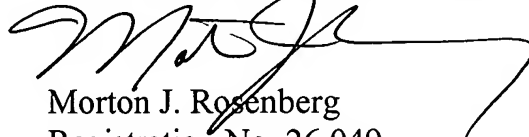
Claims 15-18 are directed a human-machine interface device where once again the interface device is a keyboard and a “fluorescent plate having therein fluorescent material” is used much in the manner of the fluorescent material in Claims 1-14. The fluorescent plate is also directed to the required structure of the keyboard.

Reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested with respect to claims 1-18 of the subject patent application.

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It is now believed that a full response has been made to the outstanding
Official Action.

Respectfully submitted,
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